कोयला क्षेत्र में पूंजी निवेश

*242. **सरदार जगजीत सिंह अरोड़ा †**
श्री रणजीत सिंह :

क्या कोयला मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) वर्ष 1990-91 के दौरान सार्वजनिक क्षेत्र में कितनी कोयला खानों में खनन हो रहा था ;

(ख) मार्च, 1991 को इन सभी कोयला खानों में कुल कितनी पूंजी लगी हुई थी ;

(ग) क्या यह सच है कि कुल निवेश का एक भाग ऋण के माध्यम से प्राप्त किया गया है ;

(घ) यदि हां, तो ऋण की राशि कितनी है और उस पर हर वर्ष कितना ब्याज दिया जा रहा है ; और

(ङ) 1990-91 के वर्ष के दौरान कोयला क्षेत्र को कितना मुनाफा हुआ ?

कोयला मंत्रालय में उप मंत्री (श्री एस०बी० नयमेगौड़ा) : (क) से (ङ) इस संबंध में एक विवरण-पत्र सभा पटल पर रख दिया गया है।

विवरण

(क) वर्ष 1990-91 के दौरान सार्वजनिक क्षेत्र के अन्तर्गत कार्यरत कोयला खानों की संख्या 510 है।

(ख) मार्च, 1991 के अंत तक कोयला मंत्रालय के प्रशासनिक नियंत्रण के अधीन कोल इंडिया लि० की तथा आंध्र प्रदेश सरकार के प्रशासनिक नियंत्रण के अधीन सिंगरेनी कोलियरीज़ कंपनी लि० की सभी कोयला खानों में कुल निवेश क्रमशः 9193.50 करोड़ रु. (अनंतिम) तथा 1029.35 करोड़ रु. (अनंतिम) की राशि का किया गया है।

†सभा में यह प्रश्न सरदार जगजीत सिंह अरोड़ा द्वारा पूछा गया।

(ग) जी, हां।

(घ) (करोड़ रु. में)

कंपनी	ऋण	1990-91 के दौरान सरकार को अदा किया गया ब्याज
कोल इंडिया लि०	5923.33	313.64
सिंगरेनी कोलियरीज़ कंपनी लि०	801.66	शून्य

(ङ) वर्ष 1990-91 के दौरान कोल इंडिया लि. को 253.16 करोड़ रु. (अनंतिम) का घाटा हुआ। सिंगरेनी कोलियरीज़ कंपनी लि. को 163.19 करोड़ रु. (अनंतिम) का घाटा हुआ।

SARDAR JAGJIT SINGH AURORA: Sir, I would like to compliment the hon. Minister for his statement. But if you study it you will find that we have invested more than Rs. 10,000 crores. In addition to that loans have been taken by the Coal India Limited to the tune of Rs. 5923.33 crores and the Singareni Collieries Company Limited, Rs. 801.66 crores. Every year our losses are mounting. Why are we incurring such losses? Is it because of the inefficiency of the labour or too much labour or due to thefts or due to mafia operations? Could the Minister please tell us what are the reasons for these losses? This is part (a) of the question. Part (b): What action has been taken to improve the profitability and cut down losses?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI P. A. SANGMA): Sir, it is true that we have incurred huge losses. The accumulated losses of the Coal India Limited till 1991 is to the tune of Rs. 2500 crores. It is a very, very

huge amount of money. The reasons for losses are many. In some areas it could be due to managerial failure. Apart from that our equipments have not been fully utilised. I had taken a review of the utilisation and equipment and found that almost 40 per cent of our equipment were not utilised. It is also a fact that we have surplus manpower. We have inherited surplus manpower from the private sector when we nationalised it. It is not simply possible for the Government to reduce that manpower because we have to live with that. Therefore, we are trying our best to improve the situation. In the last six months we have taken a number of steps and observed strict austerity measures. We are trying to utilise our machines much more. We are trying to maintain a strict financial discipline. So we are trying our best to improve the conditions.

SARDAR JAGJIT SINGH AURORA: You have still not told us how much improvement you have been able to show in the last two or three years. The other statement is not at all convincing.

My second supplementary is have you worked out what type of mines are more productive and bear such losses? Is it an open cast mine or underground mines? If so, what are the advantages of an open cast mine? If that is more productive, what sort of effect it will have on the utilisation of the land?

SHRI P. A. SANGMA: Sir, I will first tell the hon. Member about the steps we have taken to improve the position.

As I said in the beginning, we have not been able to utilise 40 per cent of our equipment. We have decided not to purchase any new equipment As a result of this, an amount of Rs. 600 crores will be saved. We are trying to utilise our existing equipment. After having taken this decision, I am glad to inform the House that our production is going up in spite of not having purchased any new equipment. We are trying to reduce the cost of production. Our cost of production is very high. We are trying to bring down the cost of production by Rs. 5 per tonne. So there are many decisions which we have taken. Perhaps, I can inform the hon. Member separately because I do not want to elaborate much here.

As far as opencast and underground mines are concerned, it is certainly the opencast ones which are more productive, which are giving us more production. And, in the underground mines, for the last 20 years, the production has remained the same; the productivity has remained the same. The production figure, 20 years ago, was 60 million tonnes and, until today, it remains there. It is not a very happy situation. But as far as opencast mines are concerned, we are making a lot of improvements. If I may give out the figures, the O.C.M. in underground mining is 0.54 whereas in the opencast it is 3.34. There is a lot of difference in that.

SARDAR JAGJIT SINGH AURORA: You have not mentioned the effect on the land, the utilisation of the land. Our country is very short of land. Opencast mining is obviously utilising more land and means land not being available for other purposes like crops, etc.

SHRI P. A. SANGMA: Of course, that is a valid point. Opencast mining not only reduce the availability of land, but also create a lot of environmental problems. Therefore, if we have to think from the environmental and ecological points of view, underground mining is much preferable than opencast mining. But the fact remains that, as far as we are concerned, as I have already stated,

are doing better in opencast mines and we are not able to proceed much in the underground mining. The demand for coal in the country is going up very much and we will have to meet that demand. Therefore, we will have to continue with opencast mines. But I think there is a great necessity to apply new technologies, to modernise our mines and see that we also improve more in underground mining.

SHRI RANJIT SINGH: Mr. Chairman, Sir, the Minister has already admitted in his reply that there are reasons for the losses. It may be that 40 per cent of our equipment are not working. But still, so many things are to be clarified. Part (a) of my supplementary will be this. The Government has invested about Rs. 10,000 crores in coal mines. With such a massive investment, when does Coal India expect to give a reasonable retur so that the coal sector can meet its own requirement of funds for its expansion from the eared profits? By which year Coal India will reach such a stage? Coming to part (b) of my question, the productivity of coal mines in India is the lowest in the world. In fact, the average coal produced per man per shift is just one tonne compared to the 6 to 10 tonnes in international mines. Our production capacity is only one tonne per man whereas internationally it is 6 to 10 tonnes. What steps are being taken to improve the productivity per man employed so that we can reach at least half the productivity of the international level?

SHRI P. A. SANGMA: Sir, it will be very difficult for me to say when Coal India will be able to give a reasonable return on the investment. We have taken certain steps. If it goes well, I hope, within a couple of years, Coal India will be able to show a lot of improvement. But I am not promising that it will break even in two years' time. It is our attempt to make it break even within two years' time.

As far as the productivity is concerned, the hon. Member is very right that we are one of the lowest. When we talk about productivity here comes the most important question of manpower management. For example, in our country from the face where coal is mined till the loading point, per tonne, per shift, we employ 40 to 50 people whereas in other countries, the highest is only eight. In western and other countries, they utilise more machines and equipment from the face to the loading point and they employ only eight people whereas we employ about 50 pople. Therefore, the productivity is naturally bound to be diefrent. In that calculation, naturally, our productivity is bound to continue to be one of the lowest in the world

श्री सुरेश पचौरी: माननीय सभापति जी, मैं मंत्री महोदय से यह जानना चाहूंगा कि जो आपने घाटे वाले कोयला खानों का विश्लेषण किया है तो उनके घाटों का क्या कारण है और उन्हें दूर करने के लिए सरकार की तरफ से क्या योजना प्रस्तावित है? साथ ही मध्य प्रदेश कोल माइन्स का माडर्नाइजेशन करने के लिए क्या कदम सरकार की तरफ से उठाये जा रहे हैं? तथा मध्य प्रदेश कोल माइन्स की स्थिति अन्य राज्यों के कोल माइन्स की अपेक्षा क्या है?

SHRI P. A. SANGMA: We have made an attempt o sudy he actual position of different mines and I may share this information with the

House which is a very important information. Now we have 97 mines which are giving us a profit of Rs. 991 crores. In these 97 mines which are giving us a profit of Rs. 991 crores, we have 1,25,626 workers which means 22 per cent of the total workforce. Now this 22 per cent of the total workforce is giving us 3,76,050 tonnes of coal per day which would mean 61 per cent of our total production. It is very interesting. 22 per cent of the workforce is giving us 61 per cent of the production. When we come to the second category—I am not going to other categories—I just want to share the information—now those mines which are losing heavily, the number is 251 and these 251 mines have a workforce of 3,55,074 which means 63 per cent of the total workforce. How much they are giving us? 63 per cent of the total workforce is producing 27.9 per cent of the total production. (*Interruptions*). Therefore, Sir, we have analysed the causes of loss and what remedy can be made. A book is under print and in the next Consultative Committee of the Parliament, we are discussing this matter very seriously and we are trying to find out a solution. Now the reasons for loss and steps taken have been covered by the earlier question. I do not want to repeat it. As far as Madhya Pradesh is concerned, Sir, we do not maintain State-wise figures. I have company-wise figures. I may give company-wise figures. Eastern Coalfields, the accumulated loss so far... (*Interruptions*)

MR. CHAIRMAN: You put it on the Table of the House.

श्री शंकर दयाल सिंह: सभापति जी, जैसा कि मंत्री महोदय ने अभी बताया उससे पता चलता है कि 259 ऐसी कोयला खानें हैं जिनमें घाटा लग रहा है। 510 में से 259 की फिगर दी है लेकिन आज से 15 दिन पहले हमने जो अखबारों में कोल इंडिया के श्री एस. के. चौधरी का वक्तव्य देखा उसमें था 100 कोल माइन्स में घाटा लग रहा है। मैं आपके माध्यम से सरकार से जानना चाहता हूं....

श्री सभापति: आप यही जानना चाहते हैं कि कौन सी फिगर सही है 100 या 200?

श्री शंकर दयाल सिंह: जो हमने अखबारों में देखा वह 100 के बारे में देखा और मंत्री महोदय बता रहे हैं 259। मैं यह जानना चाहता हूं कि यह जो मूल प्रश्न है वह आपके लोन और प्रोफिट दोनों को लेकर है इसलिए फिर से इसको देखें। पूरे देश में ऋण की ऐसी व्यवस्था हो गई है कि हमारे ऊपर डेढ़ लाख करोड़ का ऋण है जिसमें से 90-91 में आई.एम.एफ. से सितम्बर तक जो हमने लोन लिया है उस जून में 1090 मिलियन डालर, जुलाई में 220 मिलियन डालर और सितम्बर में 635 मिलियन डालर लिया है...

श्री सभापति: यह कोल के बारे में क्वेश्चन है। आप कोल के बारे में पूछिये।

श्री शंकर दयाल सिंह: हमारा कोल के संबंध में सीधा सवाल मंत्री महोदय से यह है कि जो घाटा आपने बताया है वह इसलिए भी होता है कि कोल का क्षेत्र बहुत बड़े क्षेत्रों में फैला हुआ है। आप भी इस बात को मानेंगे कि सबसे बड़ा क्षेत्र बिहार में है, किन्तु हैड आफिस कलकत्ता में है। इसलिए ईस्टर्न, वेस्टर्न और सेन्ट्रल जोन्स की सी.सी.एल. और ई.सी.एल. के जो भी आपके हैं इनको आप मद्देनजर रखते हुए नं० 1. मैं यह जानना चाहता हूं कि क्या आप इस बात पर ध्यान देंगे कि कोल इंडिया का मुख्यालय कलकत्ता

की जगह रांची या धनबाद में होना चाहिए? नं० 2, जिन कोल्यरीज में आपको घाटा लग रहा है, क्या ऐसा सरकार का निष्कर्ष नहीं है कि उनको निजी क्षेत्र में दिया जाए? नं० 3, बिहार में जो रायल्टी को लेकर श्री लालू प्रसाद यादव रोज कह रहे हैं उस रायल्टी को बढ़ाने के लिए आप क्या कर रहे हैं और नं० 4, यह जो घाटा हो रहा उस घाटे को कम करने के लिए आप क्या कर रहे हैं?

MR. CHAIRMAN: No, no; I am not going to permit more than one supplementary. Only one supplementary is permitted.

श्री शंकर दयाल सिंह: तीन का जवाब दिलवा दीजिये... (**व्यवधान**)।

श्री सभापति: संगमा जी, आप जवाब दीजिये।

SHRI P. A. SANGMA: Sir, I give the figure of 251 mines which are losing. These are the mines which are heavily losing. There are mines which are marginally losing, which is less than hundred rupees per tonne. I have already given the figure of the worst cases. That is not the complete thing; I am just giving it roughly. Now as far as question (a) whether we will pay special attention to the information is concerned, my answer is 'yes', Sir; to (b) whether the headquarters will be shifted from South Calcutta to Dhanbad, my answer is 'no' Sir; and to (c) whether the losing mines will be handed over to the private sector, my answer as of now is 'no' Sir.

SHRI GURUDAS DAS GUPTA: Sir, unfortunately the Government is playing the same tune all the time, holding excess labour as the main reason for the losses. I don't agree with it...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Put your question.

SHRI GURUDAS DAS GUPTA: I would like to know from the Minister (a) whether the Government intends to take up a plan of modernisation to improve the productivity in the coal areas; (b) whether the Goverment wants to take up the question of heavy additional funds from foreign resources including the World Bank in this regard and (c) whether the Government want to offload the surplus labour, and if so, what the plan is for offloading the surplus labour.

SHRI P. A. SANGMA: Sir, the Government has never blamed the workers as the main cause of the losses. The Government has always maintained that there are many factors which have led to incur such losses, but the fact must also be admitted that we also have a surplus manpower, that also cannot be denied. This is one of the factors, not the sole factor. So we don't blame the workers for that, that should be made very clear. We don't do that.

So far as modernisation is concerned, this question was raised last week on the floor of the House and we spent, as far as I recollect, about 35 minutes on the question of the entire programme of modernisation and I have stated on the floor of this House that as far as the Eighth Plan period is concerned, we are going to pay much more attention to modernisation and we are going to earmark more than 900 crores of rupees for that project.

SHRI GURUDAS DAS GUPTA: What about the offloading of the labour force? Does the Government intends to do it?

MR. CHAIRMAN: In fact, that was the main question. Are you thinking

of going in for retrenchment of labour?

SHRI A. G. KULKARNI: Sir, what will happen to the economy?

SHRI P. A. SANGMA: It is the policy of the Government not to resort to any action which will affect a worker. Therefore, the question of offloading the workers or their retrenchment is a very difficult one. Though we recognise the necessity of rationalisation or reorganising the unit, the policy of the Government is not to affect any worker but within the framework of giving protection to the working class if some reorganisation or reployment is required, I think we will have to do that.

DR. NAGEN SAIKIA: Sir, open-cast mining has been creating pollution of land and water and destroying the ecological balance in some parts, including the Margherita area, of upper Assam and, therefore, there is a strong protest against such operation. I want to know from the hon. Minister whether the Government is going to withdraw the open-cast mining system from those areas.

SHRI P. A. SANGMA: Sir, I don't think that it is wise for the country to withdraw any mines as of now. But, as I admitted in the beginning, open-cast mining does affect the ecology and development of a particular area. We are strictly following the guidelines which have been issued by the Ministry of Environment and in future and maintenance of ecology and environment of that area will form a part of the project itself. So far, it has not been done. We have not earmarked any extra money or we have not set apart any money for that. In future, the maintenance of ecology and protection of environment will be a part of the project.

*243. [*The questioner* (*Shri Krishan Lal Sharma*) was absent. For answer *Vide* Col. 32-33 *infra*.]

मध्य प्रदेश सरकार द्वारा सड़कों की मरम्मत के लिये अतिरिक्त राशि उपलब्ध कराये जाने का अनुरोध

*244. **श्री राघवजी** : क्या जल-भूतल परिवहन मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या यह सच है कि वर्ष 1990 में राष्ट्रीय राजमार्ग पर घोड़ा पछाड़ का पुल टूट जाने के कारण जो यातायात मध्य प्रदेश के अन्य मार्गों से गुजरा और उस कारण उन मार्गों को क्षति हुई, उसको ठीक करने के लिये मध्य प्रदेश शासन ने केन्द्र सरकार से अतिरिक्त राशि की मांग की है;

(ख) यदि हां, तो उसका ब्यौरा क्या है; और

(ग) इस पर केन्द्रीय सरकार की प्रतिक्रिया क्या है ?

जल-भूतल परिवहन मंत्रालय के राज्य मंत्री (श्री जगदीश टाइटलर) : (क) से (ग) एक विवरण सभापटल पर रख दिया गया है।

विवरण

(क) और (ख) जी, हां। मध्य प्रदेश सरकार ने उन राज्य सड़कों की मरम्मत के लिए, जिन्हें राष्ट्रीय राजमार्ग संख्या 3 पर घोड़ा पछाड़ पुल टूट जाने के बाद यातायात के लिए उपयोग में लाया गया था, केन्द्रीय सड़क निधि से वित्त पोषित की जाने वाली 418.544 लाख रु. की लागत की 27 स्कीमें भेजी हैं।

(ग) चूंकि 13.5.1988 को संसद द्वारा पारित संशोधित संकल्प के अनुसार केन्द्रीय सड़क निधि में वास्तविक वृद्धि अभी नहीं हुई है और पुरानी केन्द्रीय सड़क निधि के अन्तर्गत मध्य प्रदेश को मिलने वाली निधि में पर्याप्त धन